



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/889,577	11/08/2001	Yasuharu Uomori	010610	1714

23850 7590 12/29/2003

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS, HANSON & BROOKS, LLP
1725 K STREET, NW
SUITE 1000
WASHINGTON, DC 20006

EXAMINER

CIRIC, LJILJANA V

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3753

DATE MAILED: 12/29/2003

8

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Art Unit: 3743

Response to Amendment

1. Receipt and entry of the reply filed on October 17, 2003, including the amendments to the claims and to the specification and abstract, is hereby acknowledged.
2. Nevertheless, the reply filed on October 17, 2003 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omissions or matters: applicant has failed to fully address the objections to the abstract *and* the rejections of claims 1 through 11 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, with regard to idiomatic informalities therein. If necessary for ensuring full compliance, applicant's representative is urged to contact the examiner for clarification and/or suggestions prior to filing a response to the instant Office communication.

See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ljiljana (Lil) V. Ciric, whose telephone number is (703) 308-3925.

While she works a flexible schedule that varies from day to day and from week to week, Examiner Ciric may generally be reached at the Office during the work week between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. ET.

Application/Control Number: 09/889,577

Page 3

Art Unit: 3743


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dave Scherbel, can be reached on (703) 308-1272.

The NEW central official fax phone number is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0861.

lvc

December 26, 2003


LJILJANA V. CIRIC
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 3753